

Judicial Education Project

Request for Resources

The Office for Victims of Crime within the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded a Cooperative Agreement to conduct a four-year national Project entitled “Judicial Education.” Project co-sponsors include Justice Solutions, Inc., the National Center for State Courts and the American Probation and Parole Association, with support from the American Judges Association, National Association for Court Management, and the National Association of State Judicial Educators.

The goal of the Judicial Education Project is to provide judges and court personnel with initial and continuing education about the laws concerning victims’ rights, the impact of crime on victims and their families, and how the judiciary can comply with victims’ rights laws without infringing on defendants’ rights. The Project Team is developing a curriculum that will be pilot tested for judges, court managers, probation officers, and state judicial educators.

In order to develop the most effective curricula for this Project, we are seeking resources from the fields of victim assistance, judiciary, court management, probation, and judicial education that can contribute to a better understanding of crime victims’ rights and needs and the impact of crime on victims, and effective criminal and juvenile court processes that promote such understanding. The Project’s Advisory Board has recommended nine categories for this literature review:

1. Benchbooks (including those that address general crime victims’ issues, as well as victim-specific benchbooks, such as domestic violence and child abuse).
2. Current research and books that address victims’ rights and services in the criminal and juvenile justice courts and probation.
3. Periodicals and journals that include articles about crime victims, the courts and probation.
4. Curricula that have been utilized to educate judges, probation officers and court personnel.
5. Laws and state constitutional amendments that address victims’ rights.
6. Victim information and orientation resources that help victims better understand court and probation processes.

7. Policies and protocols that address the treatment of victims, and implementation of victims' rights, throughout court and probation processes.
8. Innovative technologies that enhance victim participation in court and probation processes.
9. Videotapes, CDs and DVDs that can be utilized to enhance the structured curriculum.

If you have, or are aware of, any existing resources that can contribute to this Project's curriculum development, *we need your help!* You can provide us with information about how to access existing resources, or send resources directly to the Project Team. You can also help by distributing this "call for resources" to others you know who may be able to contribute to the development of the Judicial Education Curriculum.

Paper copies and electronic copies of resources, as well as recommendations about individuals and organizations that we should contact to seek further resources, can be sent to:

Diane Alexander
Justice Solutions
720 Seventh Street, NW
Third Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001-3716
dalexander@justicesolutions.org (E-mail)
202.448.1710, Ext. 117 (Telephone)
202.628.0080 (FAX)

The deadline for receiving resources for the Judicial Education literature review is **Friday, June 25, 2004.**

We appreciate your consideration of this important request, and look forward to hearing from you! Thank you very much.